

GOOD NEIGHBOR ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD U.S.-MEXICO BORDER REGION MONTHLY ROUND-UP

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Good Neighbor Environmental Board Meetings for 2002

- February 20-21 - Calexico or El Centro, CA
- May 22-23 - Juarez, CH
- October 9-10 - Nogales, AZ

(Annual Strategic Planning Session will take place on January 23-24 in Washington, D.C.)

EPA News

from the Good Neighbor Environmental Board
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The U.S. Senate has confirmed Kimberly Teresa Nelson as EPA Assistant Administrator for Environmental Information. Nelson's previous positions were in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Marianne L. Horinko, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), has appointed Thomas P. Dunne to be the Associate Assistant Administrator for OSWER. Dunne's experience includes previous appointments with EPA as Acting Regional Administrator for Region 10 and Associate Administrator for the Agency's Office of Regional Operations and State/Local Relations.

Border Region News

from the Good Neighbor Environmental Board
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****Note: The items in the section below have been cut-and-pasted and compiled from other documents. Please check a primary source to ensure complete accuracy. Web sites may have to be re-entered.****

BECC/NADBank - According to a recent article in the El Paso Times, the four U.S. border governors are working

to fend off an attempt to merge BECC and NADBank. Governors Perry and Hull are quoted in an article that also covers the most recent meeting of the Western Governor's Association.

Capacity-building - The Frank M. Tejeda Center for Excellence in Environmental Operations has been set up to help border communities address their water and wastewater needs. It is a member of the Texas Engineering Extension Service at Texas A&M University. Partners include Southwest Technology Development Institute at New Mexico State University and the Arizona State Environmental Training and Technology Center at Pima Community College. Contact: beth.eby@teexmail.tamu.edu

CEC - The CEC is seeking comments on its Electricity and the Environment Initiative discussion paper. Deadline is January 10, 2002. See www.cec.org/programs

- CEC's Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) has announced that Jonathan Plaut will be the JPAC Chair for 2002. See www.cec.org.jpac

Contracts - Emergency Response - EPA has awarded two contracts for environmental cleanup response to natural and manmade disasters. One of them, valued at about \$46 million, has gone to Project Resources, Inc., a small disadvantaged, woman-owned business in San Diego, CA.

Drinking Water - EPA has announced that the arsenic standard for drinking water will be 10 parts per billion. Nearly 97 percent of the water systems affected by this rule are small systems that serve fewer than 10,000 people each. The Agency plans to provide \$20 million over the next two years for research and development of more cost-effective technologies. See www.epa.gov/drinkingwater

Grants - Hazardous Materials Research - EPA has awarded more than \$22 million in research grants to set up 5 new Hazardous Substance Research Centers affiliated with 22 universities. Centers include the following: Johns Hopkins; Purdue; Oregon State; Louisiana State; and Colorado State universities. Border-state affiliated universities include Rice of Houston, Texas; Texas A&M of College Station; and Stanford in Stanford, CA. About 30 percent of the grant money will be used for outreach and technology support in low-income communities. See www.epa.gov/ncer/centers/hsrc

IBWC - Public Participation - USIBWC is developing a South Bay Citizens' Forum to exchange information about its activities in San Diego County, CA. The inaugural meeting was scheduled for November 27, with the second meeting scheduled for late February. Those interested in Board membership should apply by January 1. Contact: sallyspener@ibwc.state.gov

Pesticides - EPA has developed new restrictions on two pesticides – azinphos-methyl and phosmet – to protect agricultural workers. The new measures on phosmet are being implemented under an agreement with the registrant, Gowan Co. See www.epa.gov/pesticides

Private Sector Partnerships - Under a cooperative agreement with EPA. The U.S./Mexico Chamber of Commerce held the first of two workshops with binational industry to develop performance indicators and implementation recommendations for an agreement called the Seven Principles of Environmental Stewardship. The first workshop took place on November 16, and the second is scheduled for December 7 in Dallas.

Reports - Colorado River - "Missing Water: Uses and Flows of Water in the Colorado River Delta Region" has been released by the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment, and Security. It can be downloaded at www.pacinst.org

- **EPA Border Report** - EPA Region 9 has published the latest issue of its Border Report – a 9 pp. special edition on Energy. It includes a section on the energy infrastructure outlook for the CA/AZ border region. Contact: Lorena Lopez, Outreach Coordinator, (619) 235-4768.

Resource Materials - Wastewater - The National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC) now offers some of its wastewater materials in Spanish. They include a free 15-minute video called "Problems with Shallow Disposal

Systems," which shows what several communities, including Espanola, New Mexico, have done to remedy water supply contamination and prevent future pollution.

Scholarships - USAID has announced the U.S.-Mexico Training Internships, Education and Scholarship Partnership (TIES). The program will provide about 750 scholarships for Mexicans to study in the U.S. TIES also will develop a minimum of 35 sustainable institutional links between higher education or research institutes in the two countries. Fields of study will include Natural Resources Management. Concept papers from individuals and institutions are due January 30, 2002. See www.usembassy-mexico.gov

Waste - Sandria National Laboratories was among this year's recipients of EPA's Wastewise Partner Awards. See www.epa.gov/wastewise

Websites - World Wildlife Fund has a new website on Mexico at www.wwf.org.mx

- The North American Institute has renovated its website at www.northamericaninstitute.org Contact: Ian Burnes, (505) 982-3657.

- Another new website, this one sponsored by National Wildlife Federation, Environmental Defense, Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Texas Center for Policy Studies, is available at www.texaswatermatters.org

Events Calendar

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Notes: Event listings below have been drawn from other lists and may have changed. Please check a primary source for more details. Events specific to border region are in bold. Web sites may have to be re-entered. Please notify Editor if dates are incorrect or have changed.

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| Dec 6 | BECC Board Meeting, El Paso, TX. See www.cocof.org |
| Dec 6-7 | 2nd National Conference for Science and the Environment: Sustainable Communities: Science and Solutions, Washington, D.C. See www.NCSEonline.org |
| Dec 9-13 | EPA Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Conference, Baltimore, MD. See www.2001conference.org |
| Dec 11-13 | Building Native Nations II Conference: Environment, Natural Resources, and Governance, Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by Udall Center. See http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/conference/bnn2.htm |
| Dec 12 | EPA El Paso Border Office Monthly Forum, El Paso, TX. |
| Dec 13 | NADBank Board of Directors meeting, San Antonio, TX. |
| Dec 17-21 | International Conference on Pesticide Use & Health, NIH, Bethesda, MD. Contact: soeh@degnon.org . |
| 2002 | |
| Jan 9-11 | U.S.-Mexico RC&D Border Council meeting, Tucson, AZ |
| Jan 10 | EPA San Diego Border Office Open House, San Diego, CA. |
| Feb 14 | EPA San Diego Border Office Open House, San Diego, CA. |
| Feb 20-21 | Good Neighbor Environmental Board Meeting, Calexico or El Centro, CA. |
| Feb 23-27 | Watershed 2002, Fort Lauderdale, FL. See www.wef.org |

Feb 26-1Mar	11 th Int. Conference on Aquatic Invasive Species, Alexandria, VA. See www.aquatic-invasive-species-conference.org
Mar	Annual EPA Border Enforcement Workshop, San Diego (tentative)
May 6-8	SCERP RIO Rico Border Institute IV, Nogales, AZ. See www.scerp.org
May 15-17	4 th Conference on Research and Resource Management in the Southwestern Deserts, Tucson, AZ. See www.werc.usgs.gov/sdfs/meetings.html
May 17-21	River Network's 3 rd Annual River Rally, Asheville, NC. See www.rivernetwork.org
May 22-23	Good Neighbor Environmental Board Meeting, Juarez, CH
June 4-7	U.S.-Mexico Border Health Association Annual Meeting, Chihuahua, Chihuahua
July 23-26	Universities Council on Water Resources Annual Conference, "Integrated Transboundary Water Management," Traverse City, Michigan. See www.uwin.siu.edu/ucowr/
Oct 9-10 -	Good Neighbor Environmental Board Meeting, Nogales, AZ
Oct 21-23	Race for Clean Water Conference 2002, Dover, DE. See www.dnrec.state.de

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